

New York, New York Public Library, Spencer Collection, NYPL Spencer 034

Description: ff. i + 218 + i - 18th century mottled calf, attributed to Derome. - Owned, and perhaps ordered, by Jacques d'Armagnac, duc de Nemours (executed 1477). Early 19th century: Payne and Mackinlay. A. Davison; Lord Thurlow; John Louis Goldsmid. Sir Thomas Phillipps collection. Presented by Edward S. Harkness, 1928. - De Ricci, 1333. Wilmer R. Leech, "Livre du Petit Artus Fils du Bon Duc Jehan de Bretaigne," Bulletin of the New York Public Library32 (1928), 391-6. - Jonathan J. G. Alexander, James H. Marrow and Lucy Freeman Sandler, The Splendor of the Word: Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts at the New York Public Library(London / Turnhout: The New York Public Library / Harvey Miller Publishers, 2005) n. 93.

Notes:-Foliation in ink incorrect. The foliation in pencil (lower right) misses the first 2 vellum sheets, which according to Leech should be included. Thus the pencil foliation is always 2 folios too low. Here correct foliation used -- count up from pencil ff.

Acknowledgments: - We thank Dr. Elizabeth Moodey for her extensive work towards the present description of this manuscript.

Number of Parts: 1 - *Number of Images Available:* 5

Direct Link: http://ds.lib.berkeley.edu/NYPLSpencer034_42

Language: French *Country:* France *Century:* 15th

Part 1: ff. 1-218v

Description: - Parchment - 303 x 217 mm - 34 lines in two columns, ruled in pencil, catchwords visible. Two opening folios, followed by 27 quires of eight folios each.

Country: France

Cardinal point:

Region: Anjou?

City:

Assigned Date: s. XV^{med}

Searchable Date Range: 1440 - 1460

Dated by scribe: No

Inscribed Date:

Document: No

Number of Scribes: ;1

Scribe(s): Scribe of Paris, B. N. de France, fr. 273

Script: Ba^tarde

Artist(s): Master of Jouvenel des Ursins, followers of

Figurative Decoration: 37 miniatures showing scenes from the romance.

Other Decoration: 2-line gold and blue initials with blue and red penwork. Larger blue initials on gold fields. Blue and gold placemarkers.

Notes: Dating: possibly executed for Jacques d'Armagnac (d. 1477) in or after 1462 when Jacques acquired the title of duc de Nemours, by which he is cited in the ownership note. The same scribe copied, ca. 1475, a Livy in French translation now in Paris. Latin

Number of Texts: 1

Text 1: ff. 3-218

Title: Livre du Petit Artus de Bretagne

Title: Cy commence le livre du petit artus fils du bon duc Jehan de bretaigne, de hector son cousin et de gouvernant a qui artus fut baille en garde.

Language(s): French

Incipit: Apres la mort du bon roy artus qui fut si noble roy et gentilz et fut toute la noblesse

Explicit: Et ainsi chascun se retourna en sa contree lie et joiant.

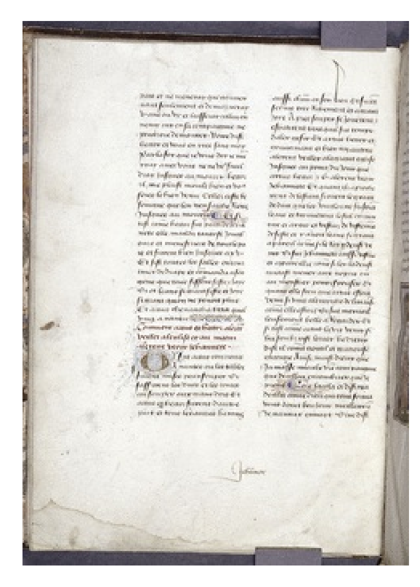
Notes: The date of composition of the romance is unknown, but is now suggested to be in the early 14th century.



f. 3 Arthur and his tutor, Gouvernor, at the court of Arthur's parents, the Duke and Duchesse of Bretaigne.

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f. 10v Page of text; catchword.

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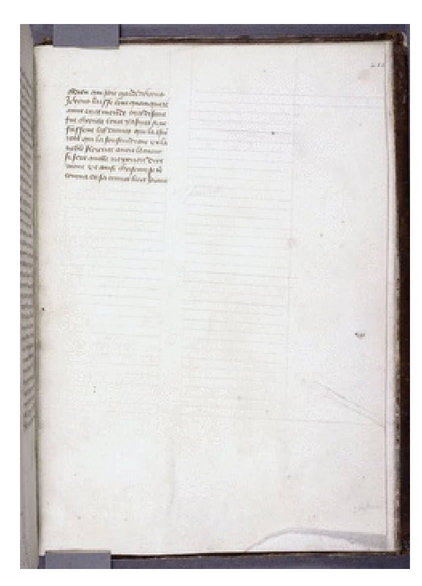
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f. 123v Proserpine, Queen of the Fairies, tempting Arthur.

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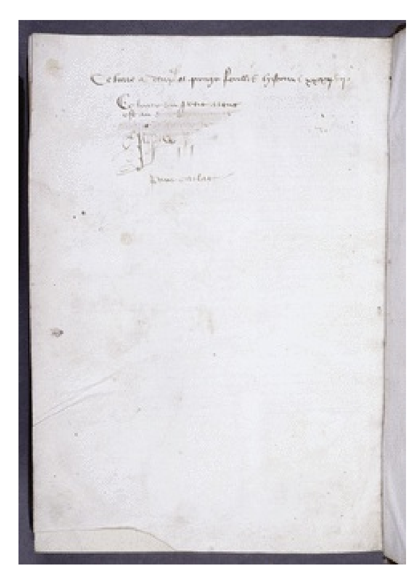
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f. 218 Explicit of text.

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f. 218v Ex libris, of Jacques d'Armagnac erased beyond "duc (but other manuscripts supply "de Nemours, conte de la Marche") and the name of one of his three libraries, in the Château de Carlat ("pour carlat"), with number leaves and miniatures.

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